

## Ocean View School District

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August 20, 2007

Honorable Nancy Wieben-Stock, Presiding Judge Orange County Superior Court C1 700 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

RE: Responses to "Orange County School-Disaster Plans: A Disaster Waiting to Happen"

Dear Judge Wieben-Stock,

All Orange County School Districts have been requested to respond to the Findings and Recommendations F1 an R1 of the "Orange County School Disaster Plans: A Disaster Waiting to Happen: study conducted by the Orange County Grand Jury. Ocean View School District is responding in accordance with California Penal Code section 933 and 933.05.

## Finding and Responses:

Finding #F1: The overall quality of the 28 Orange County School Districts and their individual school's emergency preparedness plans are in need of much improvement.

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## Response:

- a. (2) The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reason therefore.
  - Ocean View School District's plans are not in need of much improvement as the plans met the Grand Jury's expectations at the site level as well as the District level. Our Plan is updated yearly and as potential disasters are identified, we are quick to include them into our plan. Our efforts were rewarded with a Met Expectations for out District Plan and one of our schools with our other school plan receiving an Above Expectations. In addition, all of our plans meet both SEMS and NIMS requirements as currently required.
- b. (1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.
  - All of Ocean View School District's plans meet both SEMS and NIMS requirements as currently required. Plans are in place at both the District and the site level.

**Finding #R1:** Orange County School Districts should make sure that they and their individual schools have a SEMS equivalent plan, and these should be submitted to the Orange County Department of Education/Superintendent of Schools for review.

## Response:

a. (2) The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefore.

Ocean View School District's District and School Site Plans are written as a SEMS equivalent plan. In addition, they are in line with the guidelines set down by the Federal Government, Homeland Security and FEMA and are in compliance with NIMS, the National Incident Management System.

Ocean View School District feels that the recommendation to submit plans to the Orange County Office of Education is not warranted. It is the responsibility of each school district to review their own District and School Disaster/Safety Plans as mandated by California Education Code Section 32281 and 32288.

b. (1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.

Ocean View School District is committed to continue to make safety and disaster planning a priority and to provide the necessary resources as allowed within our financial resources. Compliance with SEMS and NIMS will continue as the regulations and requirements are updated by the State of California and the Office of Homeland Security.

Ocean View School District will await direction from the Orange County Office of Education regarding a change in policy requiring submission of Disaster Plans to the County Office of Education. Ocean View School District will comply with the requirement when it goes into affect.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the recommendations prepared by the 2006-2007 Orange County Grand Jury.

Sincerely,

Edward A. Sussman, Ed.D Interim Superintendent

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